

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-02

MMS-01 SS-15 SP-02 ABF-01 /040 W  
----- 026297

P 281500Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3857

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 3684

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MILI OGEN ET US

SUBJECT: STATUS OF USMAAG ETHIOPIA, JTD MANPOWER AUTHORIZATIONS

REFS: (A) SECDEF 042229Z NOV 74 (NOTAL)

(B) STATE 278654 (NOTAL)

(C) USCINCEUR 210958Z MAR 75 (NOTAL)

(D) JCS 242238Z MAR 75 (NOTAL)

1. THE QUESTION OF THE APPROPRIATE JTD LEVEL FOR USMAAG ETHIOPIA HAS BEEN IN FLUX FOR MONTHS. IN SUMMARY, THE SITUATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

A) JOINT MANPOWER PROGRAM, USMAAG ETHIOPIA FY74, JULY 1, 1973, AUTHORIZED THAT ORGANIZATION 79 MILITARY PERSONNEL.

B) IN JUNE 1974 CHMAAG, WITH AMEMBASSY CONCURRENCE, SUBMITTED AND RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF A JTD REVISION REDUCING THE MILITARY AUTHORIZATIONS TO 45. AT HQ EUCOM DIRECTION, USMAAG BEGAN TAKING NECESSARY PERSONNEL ACTIONS TO MAKE FACES AGREE WITH THE 45 SPACES BY END FY75. (USMAAG NOW HAS 66 MILITARY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED.)

C) SUBSEQUENTLY, IN AN EFFORT TO MEET A PORTION OF THE ASSIS-TANCE REQUESTS OF THE LATE GEN. AMAN, SECDEF IN REF A DEFERRED ANY REDUCTION OF PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION IN THE USMAAG UNTIL FY76.

D) AFTER GEN. AMAN'S DEATH, SECSTATE IN REF B STATED THAT "REPLACEMENT OF PERSONNEL ABOVE 45 WILL BE HELD IN ABEYANCE PENDING COMPLETION DOD REVIEW OF USMAAG STRENGTH." NO DECISION  
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ON THE AUTHORIZATION LEVEL HAS YET BEEN ANNOUNCED.

E) CHMAAG HAS CONTINUED TO PRESS THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS FOR A RESOLUTION OF THIS MATTER. HIS LATEST EFFORT RESULTED IN HQ EUCOM REQUESTING IN REF C AN EARLY DECISION IN THIS MATTER, AND A RESPONSE FROM JCS IN REF D STATING THAT ALL CONCERNED WERE ATTEMPTING TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM.

2. THE LACK OF RESOLUTION OF THIS MATTER IS CREATING A MORALE CHALLENGE FOR CHMAAG SINCE HE HAS A NUMBER OF PERSONNEL WHOSE FUTURE THIS SUMMER DEPENDS ON THE LEVEL OF AUTHORIZATION OF THE USMAAG.

3. WHILE AMBASSADOR HUMMEL WAS IN WASHINGTON, HIS VIEWS WERE SOLICITED ON THIS MATTER AFTER DUE TIME FOR IN-COUNTRY REVIEW OF SITUATION. CHMAAG CONTINUES TO FEEL THAT THE 45-MAN STRENGTH WITH ITS RESTRICTION OF ADVISORY EFFORT TO THE NATIONAL LEVEL IS THE APPROPRIATE ORGANIZATIONAL LEVEL FOR THIS USMAAG; AFTER A REVIEW OF THE MATTER, EMBASSY HAS AGREED.

4. THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT, SINCE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED ADDIS 0545 WERE DRAFTED, THE USG'S DECISION TO ACCEDE TO THE EPMG'S AMMUNITION RESUPPLY REQUEST, PLUS THE VOLUME OF FMS CASES NOW IN PROCESS, HAVE CREATED A NEW ENVIRONMENT. IN THIS ENVIRONMENT WE LIKELY ENJOY GREATER LEEWAY TO PROCEED MORE OR LESS UNILATERALLY WITH THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE USMAAG HERE WITHOUT GENERATING PERCEPTIONS POLITICALLY ADVERSE TO OUR INTERESTS. WE HAVE NOW COME TO THE VIEW THAT THE WITHDRAWAL OF REMAINING (3) ADVISERS FROM ASMARA AND HARRAR AND A REDUCTION OF THE MASSAWA TEAM BY ONE, WHICH THE PROPOSED REDUCTION IN MAAG'S STRENGTH WOULD ENTAIL, SHOULD PROVE ACCEPTABLE TO THE ETHIOPIANS, PARTICULARLY AS IT IS INTENDED TO REPLACE THESE MEN BY TDY MAAG PERSONNEL OUT OF ADDIS AS THE US MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM MAY REQUIRE.

5. SHOULD THE ETHIOPIAN SIDE RAISE THE QUESTION WITH US, WE WOULD PROPOSE TO EXPLAIN THAT THE CHANGED NATURE OF THE US MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HAS ENTAILED A RESTRUCTURING OF MAAG'S ORGANIZATION AND A REDEPLOYMENT OF ITS PERSONNEL, AND EMPHASIZE THAT NO POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO THESE CHANGES.

6. EMBASSY AND CHMAAG RECOMMEND THAT THIS MATTER BE RESOLVED  
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SOONEST TO THE END THAT USMAAG IS DIRECTED TO ADJUST INTO THE 45-MAN STRENGTH AUTHORIZATION BY END FY75 OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS DEPARTMENTAL PERSONNEL POLICIES AND ACTIONS WILL PERMIT.  
HUMMEL

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## Message Attributes

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